

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending. Claims 1, 2 and 4 have been amended. New claims 6-9 have been added.

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Wieser et al., *A New Technique for Two-Dimensional Current Distribution Measurements in Electrochemical Cells*, 30 JOURNAL OF APPLIED ELECTROCHEMISTRY, 803-807 (2000) (hereinafter “the Wieser et al. reference”).

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the plurality of Hall elements are provided on a single electrically conductive sensor mounting plate. Support for that amendment can be found, for example, in FIG. 3 which illustrates a plurality of Hall elements 64 provided on a single electrically conductive sensor mounting plate 56. No new matter has been added. Providing the Hall elements on a single mounting plate may, in some instances, prevent an undesirable leakage of gas and/or fluid across the mounting plate.

The Wieser et al. reference neither discloses nor suggests a plurality of Hall elements provided on a single electrically conductive sensor mounting plate, as recited by claim 1. Instead, the Wieser et al. reference discloses an electrochemical cell that includes a flow field that is divided into segments. (See FIG. 5) One Hall sensor 3 is coupled to each of the flow field segments. (See pg. 806, column 1, lines 12-16 and FIG. 5) That arrangement may, in some instances, allow an undesirable leakage of gas and/or fluid across the flow field through spaces between adjacent segments of the flow field.

Claim 1 should be allowable for at least the foregoing reasons.

Claims 2-5 depend from claim 1 and, therefore, should be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Support for new claims 6-9 can be found, for example, in FIG. 1 and FIG. 2. No new matter has been added.

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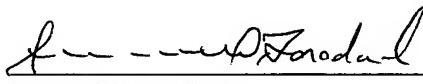
Claims 6-9 depend from claim 1 and, therefore, should be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

No fee is believed to be due. However, please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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